

Remarks

The Office Action dated January 27, 1997 by Examiner Melius has been carefully reviewed by the Applicants' undersigned attorney.

The Examiner's rejection of claim 8 has been attended to by appropriate amendment of claim 8. Accordingly, the prior rejection of claim 8 should be withdrawn.

The original specification described an alternative hydraulic flow circuit in which the serial and parallel wheel drive motors were reversed from their Fig. 2 orientation. See Page 9 of the original specification, Lines 10-22. Fig. 6 specifically illustrating this alternative hydraulic flow circuit has been added and the specification has been amended at Page 9 to refer to Fig. 6. In addition, the Brief Description of the Drawings has been amended to also describe the newly added Fig. 6.

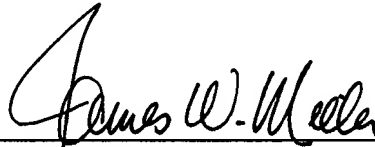
The addition of Fig. 6 and the changes to the Specification do not add new matter as they only show subject matter that was specifically disclosed in the original specification. They are being added because one of the new claims, i.e. claim 26, is directed to this alternative hydraulic flow circuit.

Various new claims directed to the novel and unique serial/parallel hydraulic flow circuit of this invention have been added to more fully protect the Applicants' invention. Claims 23-25 are directed to the embodiment, as in Fig. 2, in which the serially connected wheel drive motor(s) are located between the hydraulic fluid source and the parallel subcircuit. Claims 25-28 are directed to the reversed orientation shown in Fig. 6, i.e. the arrangement where the parallel subcircuit is between the hydraulic fluid source and the serial connected wheel drive motor(s).

Claims 23-28 are allowable for the same reasons pertaining to the allowance of the other claims in this application. No prior art reference shows or teaches the claimed serial and parallel connections in a hydraulic flow circuit of a vehicle in which the drive wheels are driven by individual hydraulic motors.

It is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and sent to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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